To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1230 without my signature.

This bill prohibits the use, sale, manufacture or distribution of any cleaning agent that contains a phosphorous level greater than 0.5 percent and allows up to 8.7 percent phosphorous in cleaning agents with a specified set of uses.

This bill does not envision a programmatic compliance and enforcement approach. It would be left to non-governmental entities or individuals lodging complaints to police its compliance. Without appropriate regulatory oversight, SB 1230 may not lead to the protections envisioned by the author.

Additionally, this bill continues the practice of chemical by chemical, product by product bans and prohibitions. California needs a coherent and systematic approach to address chemicals in products that Californians use in everyday life.

It is for this reason that I have signed into law the beginning of our historic Green Chemistry program at the Department of Toxic Substances Control. Issues such as the one raised by this bill are better handled through that science-based regulatory process.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger